

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Application No.: 10/500,244

Attorney Docket No.: Q82272

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1 – 6. (canceled).

7. (currently amended) A pneumatic radial tire comprising:

a wheel tread part being divided into a plurality of blocks and including at least one circumferential groove formed in a circumferential direction and a plurality of traverse grooves formed at proper intervals in a width direction so as to intersect the circumferential groove,
wherein each of the plurality of blocks is provided with at least one sipe which intersects the circumferential direction,

wherein a cut depth of the sipe changes in the width direction,

wherein, the block is divided in the width direction into a shoulder side region and a center side region by a center line of the block, a ratio between a sipe sectional area S2 of the shoulder side region and a sipe sectional area S1 of the center side region is as follows:

$1.4 \leq S2/S1 \leq 2.0$

so that block rigidity is higher in an end of the center side region compared with that in an end of the shoulder side region, wherein

the sipe is constituted of a one-end-open sipe formed by opening the shoulder side of the block and terminating the center side in the block, and

A pneumatic radial tire according to claim 6, wherein:

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wherein a width of an unopened part of the end of the center side region is 5 to 15% of a block width.

8. (canceled).

9. (currently amended) ~~A pneumatic radial tire according to claim 8, wherein: A pneumatic radial tire comprising:~~

a wheel tread part being divided into a plurality of blocks and including at least one circumferential groove formed in a circumferential direction and a plurality of traverse grooves formed at proper intervals in a width direction so as to intersect the circumferential groove,

wherein each of the plurality of blocks is provided with at least one sipe which intersects the circumferential direction,

wherein a cut depth of the sipe changes in the width direction,

wherein, the block is divided in the width direction into a shoulder side region and a center side region by a center line of the block, a ratio between a sipe sectional area S2 of the shoulder side region and a sipe sectional area S1 of the center side region is as follows:

$1.4 \leq S2/S1 \leq 2.0$

so that block rigidity is higher in an end of the center side region compared with that in an end of the shoulder side region, wherein

the sipe is constituted of a both-end-open sipe formed by opening both ends of the shoulder and center sides of the block, and

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wherein an end of the sipe in the center side region has a shallow cut depth, and a base of the shallow cut depth end of the sipe ~~center side region~~ has a width of 5 to 40% of the block width.